

Diploma thesis “Spain on the Way to Equal Opportunities of Women and Men“ analysis the changes of Spanish society from the point of view of elimination of the “traditional” women’s and men’s roles in the past 30 years. Spanish Kingdom is known as a country full of machos and oppressed housewives. But today’s situation is totally different. Spain is among the states with better than average women’s participation in politics and civil service. Spanish homosexuals can get married with the same rights as people of the opposite sex. Not only parity, but also fight against gender violence and equality in all of the spheres of life has been the priority of ruling party PSOE for the last 5 years. Although the change had started before the arrival of current Prime Minister Zapatero in 2004, mainly thanks to him Spain can be compared to Nordic countries – examples of equality. Enforced catholic moral, gender-separated schooling and persecution of homosexuals were replaced with equal opportunity, reconciliation of work and family and elimination of gender-based violence laws. How did Spain become a country where today gender equality is the government priority, after 40 years of regime supporting the strict division of gender roles, family model of man being a householder and women taking care of many children with no rights to paid work thus economically dependent?